

Contents

Class News—Yrs 1 and 6.....	2
Class News—Yrs 4, 5 and R.....	3
Marvellous Musicians.....	4
Roof Update.....	4
PTFA Update.....	4
Moving on Up.....	4
Other News and Reminders.....	5
Sports Report.....	5



Message from Miss Talbot

End of Year Message

As the summer holiday beckons, we can look back on a year of much success and many achievements of which to be proud.

As always our children have worked very hard and have taken great strides forward with their learning. Our new phonics scheme Little Wandle has resulted in an increase in phonics screening results, to levels of achievement higher than National figures. Positive engagement with their learning is aided by wonderful attendance and punctuality with average attendance of 96%, which is excellent.

Opal Play has also been a great success this year and has had a positive impact on the children's social skills, creativity and imagination. We are looking forward to taking this further next year. We have also enjoyed lots of enrichment activities—school trips, swimming lessons in Year 3, our Music Showcase evening and World Book Day celebrations to name but a few. We have also enjoyed sporting opportunities including athletics events and much success in the High Five League.

To all of you—thank you so much for all the support you give to our school in so many different ways.

I hope that you and your families have a fantastic summer and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.



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Oh I do love to be beside the seaside!



It was full steam ahead for an exciting trip by Year 1 this month to celebrate their Learning Adventure topic: Beside the Seaside. The children boarded the Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch railway to take a trip through Romney Marsh to the beach at Dymchurch, to see what seaside travel would have been like in the past. Once at the beach, the children completed a beach study, identifying human and physical features of a coastline and had the opportunity to explore the beach where they made sandcastles and dug for treasures. Back in the classroom the children made 3D models of beach huts, applying their knowledge of frame structures and achieved some amazing results. The children also compared modern seaside holidays to those taken in the past by Victorian families. One thing that hasn't changed over time is that it's still good fun to play on the sand!



A Fond Farewell to Year 6: Curtain Call and New Beginnings

As the summer term draws to a close, our Year 6 pupils are preparing to say goodbye to primary school and take their next big step into secondary education. It's a time filled with excitement, reflection and a touch of nostalgia as they look back on their journey and ahead to new adventures.

One of the highlights of this final term has been their dedication to the end-of-year production of **Shakespeare Rocks**. With weeks of rehearsals, singing and acting, the children have poured their hearts into bringing this entertaining show to life. Their dedication and energy have been truly inspiring, and it's clear that their parents are in for a real treat!

This production is more than just a performance—it's a celebration of everything our Year 6 pupils have achieved during their time at primary school. We couldn't be prouder of their hard work, resilience and the valuable contribution they have made to our Godinton Family.

We wish them all the very best as they move on to secondary school.

Keep shining, Year 6—you truly rock!

Athletics

Earlier this month, we took a team of children from Years 4, 5 and 6 to the annual District Sports Athletics Tournament, this year held at Ashford Prep School. The event sees children from Ashford Primary Schools competing in a range of track and field events. Although we didn't return home with any medals or silverware this year, the team worked exceptionally hard and we were very proud of them all. Well done!

Year 4 go back in time

Last Friday, Kingfishers and Nightingales celebrated the end of their World War II topic with a 'Victory in Europe' themed day. Dressed in their wartime costumes, the children got hands-on with creative activities, including decorating biscuits and making their own colourful bunting, all whilst reflecting on the significance and meaning of VE day. To wrap up the celebrations, parents and carers were invited to join in with a street party, where the children performed a selection of wartime songs they had been learning, accompanied by the talented Mrs Kelleher on the ukulele. A big thank you to everyone who came along!

Ready for Battle



Year 5 rounded off a fantastic school year with an exciting and adventurous end of year treat led by the Venture Camps team! The children spent the afternoon enjoying archery tag and target shooting – activities that brought out their competitive spirit and teamwork skills.

Laughter, cheers, and a few friendly battles echoed across the field as pupils dodged foam – tipped arrows and worked together to outsmart the opposing team. Everyone got stuck in, showing great aim, determination, and lots of enthusiasm.

A much deserved treat for all of the children that have worked so hard this year.

Time flies when you're having fun!



Time always seems to go so quickly in school and it's hard to believe that our Reception children have come to the end of their first year at Godinton. It has been such a pleasure to watch them grow this year and to see them engage so positively with all that school has to offer. We are all so proud of our fabulous children as they now take the next step on their learning journey into Year One.

The children have had an exciting, fun filled year with many highlights including two school trips and opportunities to share learning with parents in the classroom. This last term has been particularly exciting with a visit to the Gulbenkian Theatre, Heroes Day, and a visit from the ice-cream van!



Marvellous Musicians

As someone who can't play any instrument and can't sing—I am always in awe of our children's amazing musical talents—and 60 of our talented musicians had the opportunity to showcase their abilities in our Music Showcase evening last week.



During the evening, the packed audience was treated to stellar performances from individuals and groups including performances from Music Club, Buster's guitar players, Year 4 and 5 ukulele players and the Lower and Middle School choir. We were also wowed by solo performances on the guitar, piano and drums. It really was a lovely way to celebrate musical talents at Godinton and we look forward to the 2026 Showcase next summer.

Completion of Roof Work

Whilst our contractors are still working on some external roof works, internal redecoration is mostly finished and we moved back into the main building at the end of last week. My thanks go to all our team for their patience during the work, particularly those who were relocated into temporary accommodation, to our lunchtime team who have done a sterling job at working in the temporary kitchen block and to Mr Rowson and Mrs Williams for all their assistance in managing the work.

As of Monday this week activities resume in the hall including lunch, Breakfast Club and the Year 6 Leavers' Assembly on Tuesday.

PTFA Update

With all takings now counted up, it's my pleasure to let you all know that almost £2000 was raised at this year's PTFA Summer Fair. Thanks again to everyone for all your support with this event.

We are on the look out for a new treasurer and secretary to come onto the committee as Mrs Gandon would like to hand over the baton with regards to these roles. If anyone is interested please come and have a chat with me on the gate or get in touch with me via email or Mrs Prior our Chair ptfa@godinton.kent.sch.uk

We would love to welcome some new recruits to the team.

We will be holding our AGM in September. Further details will be provided shortly.

Moving On Up

To help support your child with their move into the next year group, we have put together social stories which can be looked at over the summer and provide your child with information about their move to their new class.

This year we will be sending out the Year Group Welcome Letters before we break for the summer so that parents are also informed about the year ahead. We hope that you will find these useful.

We wish all our Year 6 children who are leaving Godinton and moving on to their secondary schools the very best of luck. They have been a super cohort and should be very proud of all their achievements. For some of you, this will be your last child leaving Godinton—to you, on behalf of all my team, I extend a huge thank you for all the support given to the school during your child's time at Godinton. We wish you and your family well for the future and hope that we will see you at school events such as the Summer Fair—we always love hearing how your children are getting on.

Other News and Reminders...

- We have been very fortunate to have secured funding to run the **WOW** walk to school initiative again next year. Thank you to everyone for supporting this venture. Our engagement with **WOW** has no doubt also helped us to secure £5000 of grant funding from **KCC** to improve our cycle and scooter storage at the front of school. Work will start on this in the autumn.
- We will be setting Term dates for 2026-27 shortly so that parents can plan ahead with holiday bookings. Please ensure that you read through the school attendance policy which can be found on the website so that you understand the penalties for taking holiday during term time.
- School reopens for Years 1 to 6 on Tuesday 2nd September. We look forward to seeing you all then and hope that you have an amazing summer!

Caught on camera this month...



Sports Report

High Five League



Our final match of the Year was on Friday 4th July against Hamstreet. It was a very hot and very long day (as we had a friendly against Furley Park at 4pm and then our league match didn't start until 5pm) but our team coped with this brilliantly; they all put in 100% as always, showed great teamwork and determination, and made their teachers and parents incredibly proud. It was a resounding win, which meant that our team came top of our pool (although Mrs Crowfoot & Mrs Ellis didn't tell them that straight away).

On Thursday 10th July, we attended the presentation evening at Willesborough Junior School and the team were delighted to be told that they had come in first place, receiving a medal each and hoisting the trophy to bring back to Godinton. We were also delighted to have League Star Player (Boy) awarded to Sam Gandon in Year 6, who received joint highest nominations with a player from Wye. Fantastic results all round - we couldn't be prouder of you all.

